

Dr. William A. Wright
521 E. 6th Street Suite #5
NYC NY 10009

3203 '99 AUG 26 19:42
August 3, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket #'s: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197.

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in regards to a petition I believe you received in April of last year to ban forced molting of poultry, and in reference to Docket Numbers 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197. I strongly urge this petition be granted. Clearly the current practice of forcing molting in poultry populations with starvation damages the immune systems of the individuals and reflexively, the collective health of the flocks - as all types of stress which exceed 36 hours will - and there is impressive evidence to support the claim that this heightens the degree to which poultry are susceptible to the growth of the Salmonella bacteria.

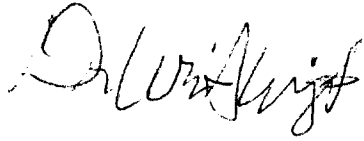
Warning labels on eggs, restaurateurs being made aware of the dangers of using knives unwashed after cutting poultry to cut salad or fruit, laws prohibiting eggs being served 'over easy' in diners - these measures have done nothing to stem the flow of patients I see in my practice who are poisoned by this bacteria. In my small private practice, I have for example, seen three cases of Salmonella poisoning in the last two months. In addition, I have a patient now, an adult female, who became contaminated with this bacteria while eating a salad in a restaurant. She has been severely ill, and has been hospitalized twice. She has been treated for 3 months, has lost 20 lbs. of body weight and much work time as well as been made unable to fulfill her responsibilities as a parent and her duties to her household. Multiply the cost of this unnecessary, and dangerous debilitation to the society and to health care system by the number of people who are affected each year, some of whom will die, and there is reason enough to do everything possible to insure the health and welfare of poultry - a mainstay of our national diet. (I emphasis welfare because I know from my work that, in mammals, body and mind are importantly joined.)

96P-0418

C 379

As a physician I would urge you to make every effort to ban this farm practice and any other that could help contribute to an atmosphere where this bacteria can thrive and fester.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dr. W. A. Wright". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Dr. William A. Wright

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ *C 379*

See File Number: 97P-0197/ *C 380*
96P-0418/ *C 379*